



## 2015 SEC BASEBALL TOURNAMENT MAY 19-24 | HOOVER METROPOLITAN STADIUM | HOOVER, ALA.

### | GAME 3 | MISSOURI (6), SOUTH CAROLINA (3) | NOTES AND QUOTES |

#### AUBURN POST-GAME NOTES

- Overall Record: 35-22
- Auburn leads the all-time series 75-42.
- Auburn will play No. 1 LSU on Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. CT.
- The win was Auburn's first victory in an opening game in the SEC Tournament since defeating Vanderbilt 3-1 in the opener on May 22, 2003.
- Auburn improves to 3-0 all-time vs. Kentucky in the SEC Tournament. The Tigers previously beat the Wildcats in 1987 and 1991.
- The win was Auburn's first in the SEC Tournament since defeating Georgia 3-2 on May 23, 2012.
- Damon Haecker went 1-for-3 with a walk Tuesday to increase his team-best reached base streak to 12 games.
- Jackson Burgreen's triple in the fourth inning of this afternoon's game was his second career three-bagger and his first since March 8, 2013, against Brown. Auburn now has 16 triples on the season, which is the most for the Tigers since recording 19 in 2012.
- With two RBI in tonight's game, Auburn sophomore first baseman Daniel Robert has now driven in 21 runs over his last 21 games and has a team-leading 37 on the season.
- Prior to Tuesday, Jordan Ebert, who was hit by a pitch as a pinch hitter in the seventh inning, was the only Auburn player who had appeared in a game in the SEC Tournament.

#### KENTUCKY POST-GAME NOTES

- Overall Record: 30-25
- Kentucky made its school-record tying, fourth-consecutive SEC Tournament berth. The Wildcats are 21-31 all-time in the SEC Tournament and 0-3 against Auburn.
- Second baseman JaVon Shelby has made 105 consecutive starts and has reached base safely in 50 of 55 games in 2015.
- Kyle Barrett led the SEC in hits (82) during the 2015 regular season and went 2-for-4 in tonight's effort, his 145th career game.
- Left fielder Ka'ai Tom went 3-for-4 and extended his current hitting streak to eight games. He also tallied two RBI and a run scored and has now reached base safely in 51 of his 55 games in 2015 and in 99 of his 110 career games.
- Barrett and Tom are tied for the team lead in multi-hit games (18) and combined for five of Kentucky's seven hits on the night.

#### AUBURN HEAD COACH SUNNY GOLLOWAY

##### *Opening Statement ...*

"First of all, I am really impressed. This is the first time for me in the SEC Tournament. The way everybody in the city of Hoover treats the student-athletes is pretty special. On to the game, I think our guys did a great job of competing. I told our guys that we had to stay the course. There is too much at stake for them to not punch us back at some point. They have too many good hitters in their lineup. I am just really proud of our guys. I said before the game that I felt we were already in the NCAA tournament because of our body of work. I told our guys to just go play. We are playing today to get into the double elimination portion of the SEC tournament because I didn't want them to be too tight. Cole's (Lipscomb) was outstanding. I just thought Cole's performance was just really special because looking at (Kentucky RHP Zack) Brown, he can really run it up there too. You could tell both of them were coming off of short rest. I think the big difference was we were able to get his pitch count up."

*On if the win makes the team looser*

"I knew going into today, we wanted to have a strategy to do whatever it takes to get into the double elimination portion. This is new to us, single elimination and go home. What is so important to us is that Rocky (McCord) gets to get a start. What we are guaranteed right now is two more starts and that keeps you in rhythm for the NCAA tournament. "

*On playing LSU tomorrow*

"They are very, very good. They have tremendous speed. We are going to be up to the challenge. We are not in awe of them at all. We are very respectful of Coach Mainieri and what his players have done. We feel like we are playing our best baseball."

#### **NO. 29, JACKSON BURGREN, LF, JR.**

*On the triple...*

"Coach Galloway told me to choke up and be ready for my pitch. We have been working on that pretty hard the last two weeks. I got the barrel out and squared it up. It means a lot to be able to play now. I know I have worked really hard in my last three years here and I'm glad I have an opportunity to play."

#### **NO. 49, COLE LIPSCOMB, RHP, SO.**

*On the win...*

"It was very special. We just wanted to come in here and take it out of the committee's hands by putting up a strong showing this week. We just really wanted to get into the double elimination portion. Everyone on the field came out tonight and played great."

*On what was working for him*

"Earlier, I was using my FB to get ahead and my slider which was my big out pitch tonight. Later on in the game I was getting tired and I was using my changeup. Overall, all three of my pitches were working. The slider was definitely my out pitch tonight. "

#### **KENTUCKY HEAD COACH GARY HENDERSON**

*Opening Statement ...*

"Well, obviously, we're disappointed that we don't get to stay here in Hoover a little longer. I like being here, and I told our players that. Two of the last three years we've gotten to stay a while, and I was hoping to stay longer. We didn't do a lot to help ourselves in the first six innings. After the fourth inning, I actually thought that we were in pretty good shape only being down three runs, compared to what could've happened. If a couple of breaks go the other way, we could be chasing more than that. I felt good, not necessarily at how we played, but how efficient we've been. We're still within striking distance. We came back in the seventh and the eighth innings and gave ourselves the chance to get the tying or go-ahead run, so we did that. That was a positive for us."

*On Cole Lipscomb's performance...*

"The player of the game is obviously Cole Lipscomb. That was a tremendous performance by him. I don't think we had a right-handed hitter get a hit against him. Kyle (Barrett) had a couple of hits off him. Marcus (Carson) had one, and Ka'ai (Tom) had one. So that's four hits. Lipscomb was very, very impressive tonight."

*On Kentucky's postseason chances...*

"Well, I haven't looked at it, but I've had a couple people around me look at it and spend a little bit of time on it. I know that there's only one team in the last dozen years with 14 league wins that didn't make the NCAA tournament. So we certainly feel good about that. But I haven't studied it. I don't know. I'm just hoping that we get the chance to continue to play."